



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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UN-Sudan relations

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Ali Al-Sadig described the US-UK draft resolution to the UN Security Council, which calls for the deployment of hybrid forces to Darfur and imposition of new sanctions on Sudan, as “a dead proposal.” The move, said Al-Sadig, is in line with the hostility campaign against Sudan. “This draft resolution would not take matters back to Resolution 1706, nor would it stall UN funding of the UN Heavy Support Package.” The spokesperson declined to comment on the statement by US Deputy Secretary of State Negroponte, in which Negroponte alleged that the Sudanese Government is involved in a deliberate campaign to intimidate relief organizations operating in Darfur: “We do not care about such statements made by parties seeking to escalate hostility against Sudan,” Al-Sadig stated. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Sudan Vision*)

- The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) called yesterday for a cessation of hostilities before the Heavy Support Package could be provided by the UN to the African Union (AU) force in Darfur. UNMIS Spokesperson Radhia Achouri stated that “In order for the Heavy Support Package operation to be effectively implemented ... violence and military action in Darfur must cease.” She added that the Janjaweed and other armed militias must be disarmed, and attacks on humanitarian workers and peacekeepers must stop. Achouri further called for lifting of all bureaucratic impediments faced by NGOs operating in Darfur. (*Al-Khartoum*)

- The UN’s World Food Program (WFP) stated yesterday that Sudanese authorities are holding up 100,000 tons of sorghum meant for Darfur, alleging that it is genetically modified. WFP said that the sorghum, which comes from the United States, is being held up at Port Sudan and that laboratory tests

had shown it was not genetically modified. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Rebel group calls for 50,000 peacekeepers in Darfur

- Mahjoub Hussein, the leader of the Greater Sudan Liberation Movement (a dissident faction of Minawi’s SLM group), demanded, in a letter sent to the UN Secretary General, that the UN increase the international forces to be deployed in Darfur to 50,000 vice 20,000 soldiers. “The size of the region as well as its geographical and environmental setting” require the larger number of peacekeepers, he said. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)



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